

## ABSTRACT

A method for detecting defects in a surface of a container includes: providing a plastic container having a longitudinal axis and a surface; directing  
5 ultraviolet radiation from a source to an area of the surface; sensing a portion the ultraviolet radiation that is reflected from the surface of the plastic container; and generating a signal from the sensed portion of the ultraviolet radiation representing a  
10 defect in the surface plastic container.